

LETTERS

israel

Dear Sir,

After two months in the Middle East I've become acutely embarrassed to think that I once believed and even mouthed the propaganda of Zionism. Having visited a camp of 1967 refugees, talked to many unjustly dispossessed people, seen results of Israeli rule in occupied territories I cannot but support the cause of the liberation of Palestine. I would hope that many of these things are becoming more widely publicised in the Australian press. Anything a casual visitor may add would no doubt be denounced as an impulsive and biased judgement by Zionist apologists.

However there is on experience of such importance in destroying my delusions about Israel that I would like it to be known. It concerns the manner in which Israel controls the flow of Palestinians wishing to enter and leave the occupied West Bank. In Israel it is known as the "Open Bridges Policy", the government tells many lies about it, and it is said to illustrate the benign nature of the occupation. But during a day and night spent at the Jordanian town closest the Allenty Bridge and during two crossings of the Jordan River, I witnessed a process of deliberate degradation of a conquered people which bears comparison with many of the Nazi outrages which Israel insists it cannot forget.

There are three "open bridges" on the Jordan River. They are open for five hours a day and Most people cross at the Allenby Bridge, fifteen kilometres north of the Dead Sea, 300 metres below sea level and just off the main road from Amman to Jerusalem. Each day in summer between two and three thousand Palestinians arrive at Shunat Minrin, a town seven kilometres from the bridge, hoping to be amongst the 750 people admitted to enter greater Israel during the five hours the bridge is open. The town itself remains in ruins from the Israeli raid in May 1968 which killed seventy civilians and forced Hussein to relocate the refugee camp which had been set up outside the town. Most refugees leave Amman at 4.00am and arrive three hours before Israel open the bridge for traffic at 8.30. Each day several hundred are forced to return in disappointment to Amman, while others chose to camp out waiting to be included in the daily quota. On the day I was there I saw whole families who had spent three days in one of the hottest places on earth merely waiting for the chance to visit their relatives.

By 7.00am six queues, each a hundred yards long, had gathered at the Jordanian police post two kilometres closer the river where the lucky 75- boarded 15 buses. By 8.00 teh buses were drawn up at the bridge and children soon began to cry as the temperature climbed into the upper 30°C. On most days in

July and August the temperature reaches 40°C by mid morning in the Jordan valley. The Israelis drove up in a jeep at 8.40, ten minutes late. From less than fifty metres the Palestinians watched as the Israeli soldiers chatted together and drank from a canteen. An impatient Jordanian officer walked to the middle of the bridge and stood within earshot of the Israelis. Another three minutes elapsed before the senior Israeli acknowledged his counterparts' presence, saluted, and ordered the wire rolled back from the bridge.

Only three buses at a time were allowed to enter occupied Palestine and drive the 500 metres through military lines to the Israeli processing point, the others being ordered to await the return of empty buses. With no shade the buses soon became ovens. After disembarking the palestinians were herded into barbed wire enclosures and separated from their baggage prior to being shuffled through a succession of makeshift tin sheds. To add further insult and to minimise the cost to Israel's treasury 100 Jordanians fils (30 cents) must be paid for each piece of luggage to be carried through the camp by Arab employees of the Israeli Army. The only relief from the heat is provided by a few dozen fans, all of which are directed to blow behind the count ers where the Israeli officials stand.

Every piece of luggage is opened, every man, woman and child is forced to undress. The process is tortuously slow, some luggage being searched twice. I saw Israelis cutting open the seams of clothes and sleeping are closed on the Jewish Sabbath. rolls without a hint of apology or any attempt to repair the damage. All written material is removed for especial scrutiny; a Palestinian engineer from Kuwait, who was clearly more amused than angry, told me he had been waiting half an hour for his medical prescription to be returned. I waited twenty minutes for my address book.

At ten an air-conditioned bus with American and German tourists en route from the Hotel Intercontinental in Amman to the Intercontinental in Jerusalem reached the post. Their luggage was half-heartedly searched, they did not have to queue to have their passports stamped, and at ten thirty they were free to go. They had precious foreign exchange, they were not penniless refugees inconveniencing Israel by wishing to visit the land of their birth. Their time was precious.

Finally I was led into a small shed to be body-searched. Ranged in cubicles along the wall were three elderly Arabs dressed only in their underwear. They were being questioned in Arabic by Israeli soldiers young enough to be their gransons A sub-machine gun lay on a table, one soldier had a holstered pistol. When I left ten minutes later they old men were still sitting there waiting for their clothes to be returned. There was no indication that theirs were in any way special cases, nor that similar degrading treatment is not given every refugee.

By 11.00 the first Palestinians emerged from the ordeal, finally free to board the Israeli government buses to Jerusalem. Many children and elderly people had been overcome by the heat and were treated at Israeli first aid posts. Twice during the fifty kilometre ride through the Judean hills into Jerusalem the bus I was in was stopped and searched by Israeli police and passports and permits meticulously examined. Buses carrying Israelis from northern Gallilee to Jerusalem along the same road are never stopped. By 1.00 after a day for many had begun nine hours earlier in Amman the first Palestinians reached Jerusalem, completing a journey which in happier times took ninety minutes. The "Jerusalem Post" in common with the rest of Israel's conservative media, cites the bridges policy as evidence of Israeli humanitarianism and claims that only security considerations prevent the passage of as many people as wish to enter Israel. The word "Palestinian" being officially taboo in Israeli doublethink, it is never mentioned that the people crossing the bridges are refugees revisiting for one month homes which they are not permitted to resettle. Instead they are merely "Arab visitors" and the statistics are doctored to list them by place of residence, so that it appears that many thousands of Lebanese, Kuwaites, Egyptians and others are being allowed entry into Israel. Israel is said to be exceedingly generous to

"the Arabs" considering they

lost this land because of the

failure of their aggression in

1967. Some Israelis I spoke

with had so completely accepted

these fraudulent arguments they had forgotten the human tragedy

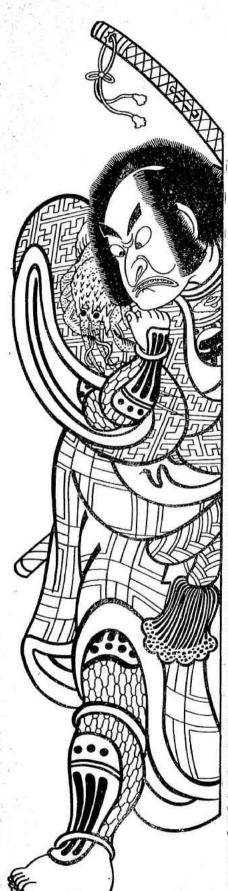
of 1967 and even complained

and allows Israeli visitors.

that Jordan did not reciprocate

My impression was that the Bridges Policy is little more than a cynical sop to world opinion which serves to hide the true racist nature of Zionist rule. For PR reasons Israel cannot permanently separate families, much as its generals would no doubt wish to do so. But at the same time there is no need to facilitate the crossing of the Jordan and every desire to frustrate it. The searching of luggage and bodies could be speeded by electronic surveillance and is not. The bridges open not at sunrise but during the heat of the day and remainopen only 30 hours a week. The Israeli soldiers could be at least a little apologetic about their tasks but are as brusque and discourteous as the rest of their countrymen. Clearly the aim of the policy is to treat people like cattle, to so help up the indignities involved in passage that Palestinians will lands from which they were driven in 1948 and 1967, It is a testament to the dignity of these courageous people that they respond to the callousness of their tormentors not with the anger they feel, but with a constant good humour.

Tim Morris.



Dear Editor,

On Tuesday 9 July a bulletin entitled "What the 10/10 Committee Decided" was distributed around the Union. It brought finally to my notice just what some students have been agitating for in recent months and I write under the impulse of considerable concern.

It was section 2 - student choice of the means of assessment - which caused this concern, because I cannot envisage a 90% vote for any form of assessment. Those who belong to an organisation will know how hard it is to muster a twothirds vote for anything. Less than 90% support for another system leaves the way open for individual choice of assessment.

To me this seems, in turn, to open the way for a gross devaluation of the worth of an ANU degree - and I do want my degree to mean something. It would also place a much greater work load on tutors, especially when considered in association with the proposed repetition of tutorials.

I foresee the former because unless we were extraordinarly conscientious, we're going to take the very human course of choosing the form of assessment that will make it easiest for us. It believe a system of personal assessment was tried at some American universities with exactly the result I fear.

The reason for the latter, the overloading of tutors, is obvious. I fear that it is parttime students who will suffer most as a result. We have a hard enough time getting to see tutors as it is. It seems that we parttimers have been little considered in this matter. And there is also the question of whether or not academic staff would have sufficient time for reading and other preparation. I doubt it.

I think that with personal choice of passessment everyone would be losers. Personally,

the system which operates in the units I'm doing - part assessment, part exam - is probably the best. Certainly knowing that I'll face an exam at the end of the year gives me incentive to study harder than I probably would have otherwise. (And it would be only my own fault if I had to cram at the end of the year. It would indicate that I had not worked steadily through-

I am enjoying what I'm doing at the ANU, although it is hard work, and pass marks will give me both a sense of satisfaction and of achievement because I know I'll have earned them. I also know that I speak for many part-timers. In fact, before major changes are final, I would like to see the alternates put to the whole student body at a poll, because I feel the attitudes of the student body as a whole are not known.

Perhaps I'm at fault for not being more aware of just what was being demanded in the 'smashexams' campaign. But again, part-timers, especially those with families, have unfortunately little time for university affairs. Meantime, I guess that what I most want now is reassurance of some sort.

R. Owen, Arts.

Mr Owen's criticism of the student demands are useful in that they raise a number of objections and are based on certain assumptions, that, on closer examination, prove to be invalid.

. . . .

In regard to the means of assessment, one of the things we are attempting to do is to make the system more flexible so as to account for those students who do not wish to sit an exam. The students that wish to sit one may do so, but there must be no implication that all students must sit ane xam.

When reviewing the demands although I dislike exams, I believe, it must be born in mind that

they all interrelate, for one cannot consider course content without considering course assessment.

It is proposed that each unit make available to its students a brief description of the aims and objectives of each course. With these in mind, the students are then at liberty to discuss any forms of assessment they choose. The point being, that the assessment used in a particular course must be consistent with the aims of that course. Thus some students may opt for essays, verbal reports and group assessment in tutorials while others may choose two long essays and an exam. Should, after consultation between staff and students of a particular course, one or a number of forms of assessment be considered essential to meet the objectives and aims of the course then these forms may be made compulsory but only with 90% approval of the class. If this can't be achieved, then it constitutes a dispute and would normally go before the Epanded Departmental Committee for a discussion.

It must be remembered that the student demands call for more than token flexibility on the aprt of the "powers that be" By a student to choose his own form of assessment, it is meant that from a large range of assessment options (e.g. no assessment, group assessment of essays, exams verbal reports etc) which are considered by staff and students to be consistent with the aims and objectives of a course, that a student can choose any one or combination that best suits his temperament and attitude to the unit. There is little to be really gained by forcing all students to do the same form of assessment, regardless of their own preferences and/or limitations.

In general I can reassure Mr

a) No one will be forced not to do

assessment is agreed by staff and students to be inconsistent

with the course. b) Ignoring the obvious false assumptions that the amount of work one does is directly proportional to ones achievement and that assessment which is applicable to student desires and needs and the objectives of the course will lower the standard of the ANU degree, the student demands do not threaten Mr Owen's right to work hard and be assessed in the way, traditional way, he prefers.

c) In a sample survey held by the part-time students association in cooperation with the part-time studies advisor the opinion of part-timers on the assessment demand was unequivocal:

'Each individual student should be able to choose from a list of alternatives'.

Michael Gill Julius Roe.

Dear Sir.

I wish to add to the current debate concerning the setting up of a Women's Studies course at ANU. I am not a member of any women's liberationist group, and hence do not have a 'vested interest' in the establishment of such a course. However I am a member of the academic staff and have supported the first of the students' proposals, viz., student participation in deciding content of existing courses, and, presumably, in decisions about the introduction of new courses. On these grounds, I consider the proposal to introduce a Women's Studies course to be a valid one worthy of serious consideration.

The question then arises, would I be prepared to offer such a course in the Philosophy Department of which I am a member? At the risk of reducing my previous remarks to a "hollow gesture", my answer is negative. Primarily, it would

be quite opposed to my personal philosophical commitments to treat women's problems in isolation from the overall philosophy of which these are a part. For example, in two of the courses that I conduct - the "Existentialism" workshop in Philosophy I and Phenomenology (fourth year honours option) philosophical issues relating to women do arise, but these issues are dealt with in the context of existentialist philosophy as a whole: I think it would be a distortion of the philosophy of people like de Beauvoir and J-P Sartre to isolate their treatment of 'women's problems' from the entire philosophy of which they are a part. And this seems to be what is required by those who would advocate a special philosophy subject devoted to women's issues in this area.

The other possibility is to enter into an inter-disciplinary arrangement either (a) by joining forces with one or more existing departments who are proposing women's studies courses, or (b) by participating in a newly formed autonomous multi-disciplinary course on women's studies. Those who regard these alternatives as being mutually incompatible are, I think, guided by 'political' motives, that is, a concern for the best way of furthering the women's cause. My own concern is how I can best present or integrate the area of study that I have to offer - that area being a broad philosophical framework rather than the abstracted 'feminist' element. So my preference for either of the alternatives above will be dictated by the actual content of the proposed courses and the ease with which they would admit the study of a philosophical framework which encompasses issues specifically relevant to women.

Maurita J. Harney, Senior Tutor in Philosophy.

HEALTH



The University Health Service announces the attendance of a Consultant Gynaecologist, Dr. Ann Hosking, on Tuesday ment only, and will be avail-

able free of charge to students and wives of students only.

The inoculation and Vaccination Clinic for overseas travellafternoon each week, commenc- ers will now be held on Monday ing August 27, 1974 at 2.00pm. afternoons at 2.30pm to 3.30pm Consultation will be by appoint-26 August, 1974.

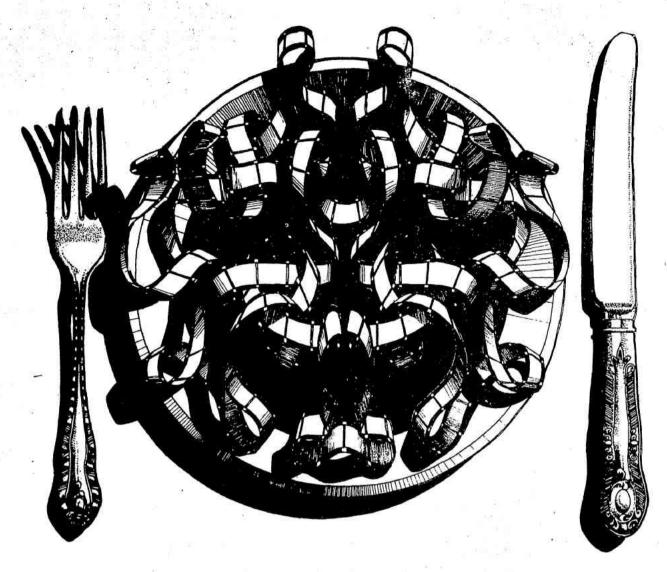
Woroni is the newspaper of of the ANU Students' Association.

Published by Andrew McCredie Printed by Progress Press Pty. Ltd **Fyshwick**

Edited by Shane Maloney with the help of Michael, Andrew, Jock, Keith and of course Roxy.



KULTURE



The Cultural Affairs Committee is one of the Committees of the ANUSA. Unfortunatly this fact is not widely known, more unfortunately this fact lives in danger of never being widely known. Each year, plans are advanced to remedy this situation, and each year nothing really seems to happen. So once again CAC is pro claiming its existence.

Believe it or not, 1974 has been one of the best years CAC has seen. But have you seen this, maybe you have not, but you may have seen Cheech & Chong, Bakery in Concert, the Australian Dance Theatre, one of Theatre Groups productions, been involved in the Debating intervarsity, seen various pop groups and singers in the bar, Africa, the posers aDvertising the forthcoming Cultural Affairs week

(CAW). Well now, if you've seen any of these events, you've seen CAC in action.

Before I proceed in my romp through CAC activities. A brief word about the forthcoming Cultural Affairs Week. The week that will be, has a twofold purpose. Firstly it is an attempt to involve as many cultural groups on campus in a week long festival. Secondly, it is an attempt to raise money for and consciousness about the Performing Arts Centre. The Performing ARts Centre, will one day, be the Cultural Centre of the ANU and maybe Canberra for that matter. A theatre and a complex of rehearsal and office space will make up the centre. With this make up and the continuing growth of culture on campus, the Centre is assured of

success.

One of the aspects of culture that CAW will attempt to overcome is culture's commodity nature. In other words people see culture in terms of what they can go and see, rather in terms of what they can participate in. This present attitude stifles cultural activity and limits it to a select few. Such an approach to cultural activity is one which needs to be changed. Consequently the demonstration by the Creative Arts Group and the Irish and Welsh Dancing group, will be part performance and part involvement by what was once the audience.

The Cultural Affairs Committee spoken word.
hopes that this week will attract
people to participate in cultural
activities, whether by joining an
existing group or if necessary

The Committe
lobbying so the will be an Act

starting their own.

CAC activities though many and varied are limited due to lack of money and lack of organizing time. The committee believes that the level of activities could have been doubled this year, if there was a full time Activities Officer to organise and coordinate activity. CAC has for many years believed in the necessity of an Activities Officer and the events this year have only re-enforced this belief.

The problem with saying that we need an Activities Officer is in the saying. Things never seem to proceed beyond the spoken word.

But not this year, (we hope) The Committee is arguing and lobbying so that next year there will be an Activities Officer. Next year there will be someone who the Cultural groups (or anyone else for that matter) can go to and ask for help, assistance or coordination in the activities they wish to undertake.

One of the next problems about having such an officer, is, that student involvement in Cultural Activities could drop. However the CAC feels that the level of activity at ANU would preclude such a state of affairs occurring. There is enough going on to keep a full time person busy for, at the minimun, a forty hour week.

Consequently, though Cultural Activity is increasing, such activity will not be effective unless it is coordinated and such coordination can only come from an Activities Officer.

FLINDERS

From Woroni's Flinders Uni. Correspondent.

The occupation at Flinders University ended on Thursday (Aug. 29) but not quite in the way that the morning papers reported.

At 12.00 on the Wednesday, the staff had organised a "peaceful demonstration" — all very well — but at 11.00 a troop of MSS guards appeared on the campus and at 11.30 the press was told that there was to be a break-in. Hardly spontaneous action.

Once the staff, with a little help from their friends, drove the students out of the Registry building. The students occupied the staff club.

This was a bit much for the victorious staff. So they let go the leashes on the MSS Guards who crowbars in hand, charged the staff Club and drove the students out. At this stage the police accompanied by an entourage of riot dogs arrived

ready to lend a hand. Unfortunately the police were needed to control the MSS Guards and not the students. The students retreated to the union building where they were told that unless they came out the MSS Guards would come in to get them. The students retantly came out where they

. .

had their names taken. A mass meeting that was being held while this article was being written had passed motions reaffirming their position and condemning the actions of the staff, police and MSS Guards.

A.N.U. Union art competition

Open to all students and Canberra residents under the age of 25.



Exhibition September 17-22

Melville Hall, ANU 12 noon to 4 p.m., 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Full details and entry forms from the Union Office ANU.

6 Prizes to be won:

\$100 Union Prize — best overall entry

J. B. Young Prize — best entry from an ANU student or staff member

Union Prize - best photograph \$50

\$50

Union Prize — best ceramic
Union Prize — best overall entry
from schoolchildren

Swain's Prize — best graphic

Sponsored by THE CANBERRA TIMES

KHOO EE LIAM

SURVEILLANCE AND IN-, TIMIDATION OF MALAYSIAN STUDENTS.

The arrest and imprisonment of Knoo Ee Liam, who was a student in Australia and New Zealand besides confirming the fears and suspicions of many Malaysian students in this country also highlights some very vital questions regarding the surveillance and interference by the Malaysian government of the activities of Malaysian students studying abroad.

The Khoo case

Khoo Ee Liam studied as a matriculation student in Melbourne in 1965 and 1966, after which he went to the University of Christchurch in New Zealand. In 1970, he was elected as International Officer of the Students' Representative Council. Khoo returned to Malaysia in 1971 and was held for a week under interrogation, then released on his father's recognisance. In the early horus of February 27th this year, Khoo was arrested by security policy at his family home in Kuala Lumpur. He has now been held for over five months without trial.

The charges

Among the charges against Khoo there are three which relate to his student activities in New Zealand and Australia:

- That while a student at Canterbury University he 'actively participated in the activities of the pro-Peking New Zealand/China Friendship Society and was in close association with known members of the New Zealand Communist Party'
- 2. That while in the same University 'he is collaboration with two pro-communist elements in New Zealand attempted to join the Malayan National Liberation Army of Malaysia' and
- That while a matriculation student in Melbourne, Australia, 'he has studied a great variety of Communist literature and publications and on many occasions indulged in serious discussion with members of the pro-Peking/Australia China Friendship Society in order to enhance his knowledge and belief in the Communist ideology.'

Implications for Malaysian Students abroad

What does the Khoo case tell us about the policy of the Malaysian government to Malaysian students studying abroad?

Firstly, that the Malaysian government maintains an information system through which it keeps track of the activities of Malaysian students. The details contained in the charges against Khoo lead us to no other conclusion. The students of the Australian National University recently had first hand experience as to the efficiency of this system. After news of the Khoo case got to Canberra, the Overseas Student Service organized two forums to discuss the questions raised by Khoo's arrest. AT the first forum, a committee consisting of several Malaysian students was formed to take action on the Khoo case. Subsequently, it was learned that the identities of all the members of the committee together with much that was said at both forums were known to the Malaysian High Commission. There are also cases of individuals being warned by the Malaysian High Commission for their 'political' activities.

Secondly, that Malaysian students studying in Australia are not free to enjoy the same political rights as their Australian counterparts. The Malaysian High Commission in Canberra has in fact informed the Malaysian Union of Students in Australia, that all Malaysians at all times and wherever they may be are subject to the Internal Security Act which enables the Malaysian government to arrest and imprison arbitrarily without trial. This means that the policy of the Labor government that all foreign students while they are in Australia should have the same degree of political freedom as their Australian counterparts is meaningless for a large proportion of overseas students, for quite clearly, so long as there is surveillance and intimidation there can be no question of foreign students enjoying the same political rights as Australian students. Mr Walding, Associate Minister for Foreign Affairs for New Zealand expressed clearly the implication for New Zealand

when he said that any attempt to penalize someone for activities which were not unlawful in New Zealand would be an attempt to extend the laws of Malaysia to New Zealand and would raise serious issues involving academic freedom and civil liberties of which New Zealanders were proud. The same is true for Australia.

Silence from Canberra

While the New Zealand government has been active in inquiring into the whole question of surveillance and intimidation and in making its own position on their clear, Canberra has been regretably silent. A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs has said that although the Department was aware of the situation, its attitude is that "it is really a matter between the students and their government". (Sun 6/6/74). Clearly, this is much more than just a matter between Malaysian students and the Malaysian government. The surveillance and intimidation of Malaysian students studying in Australia in effect represents an extension of Malaysian laws into this country. That this goes on in the campuses is as much an affront to Australian students and indeed the Australian people as it is a threat to Malaysian students.

Malaysian government's refusal to meet students

to meet students
The Malaysian High Commissions
both in Australia and New Zealand have throughout maintained
a consistent refusal to meet
students to clarify matters
relating to and arising from
Khoo's arrest. The Malaysian
High Commissioner in New
Zealand, the notorious Jack de
Silva has refused to talk about
Khoo's arrest. At the end of
April David Cuthbert, a senior

NZUSA officer went to Kuala Lumpur to try to find out why Khoo had been arrested from officials of the Malaysian Home Affairs Ministry. Despite several requests from the New Zealand High Commission, the Ministry refused to talk to Cuthbert. However the New Zealand High Commission learnt from an official Malaysian source that the Malaysian Government was aware of Cuthbert's visit and highly embarrassed by it.

The situation in Australia has been no better. The Malaysian High Commissioner and officials of the High Commission have on numerous occasions been questioned on the Khoo case and have refused to comment, often feigning ignorance. A committee which was formed at the ANU to organize a torum at which the Malaysian High Commissioner would have the opportunity to meet students to discuss some of thequestions raised by the Khoo arrest soon found out that the Malaysian High Commissioner had not the slightest intention of meeting students in the proposed forum.

'The protection of numbers' The arrest of Khoo has resulted in a campaign in New Zealand by NZUSA against political surveillance and intimidation of students. Malaysian students throughout New Zealand, often wearing hoods to conceal themselves from the Malaysian High Commission's photographers supported the forums and rallys organized in protest against this extension of political repression to New Zealand. They were able to be involved because they had the protection of numbers. As Alick Shaw, International Vice-President of NZUSA pointed out when he was in Australia, the Malaysian government if it wanted to take action against those Malaysians involved in the protests in New Zealand would have to take action against the hundreds of Malaysians who participated in the protests throughout New Zealand and the executive of every single Malaysian Students Association in New Zealand who had taken a stand on the

The support of Australian

students needed The reason why such large numbers of Malaysian students were involved in New Zealand in the campaign against the Malaysian government's surveillance and intimidation is that NZUSA and the students of New Zealand left them no doubt as to the support they were prepared to give their Malaysian fellow students. The support given by the New Zealand students to the campaign has been overwhelming at all levels. The same sort of support is needed in Australia if Malaysian students are to be involved in what surely is for many Malaysians, a vital issue. We have no assurances that many Malaysians now in Australia will be safe from discrimination or even imprisonment when they return home for having dared to express their political views while studying in Australia. The campaign in Australia Both AUS and the Overseas Student Service in their recent

national conferences in Melbourne voted overwhelmingly in support of a concerted campaign in Australia against all forms of political repression. Three public rallys have been organized in protest against the Malaysian government, particularly in relation to the incarceration of Khoo. They are Sydney on the 31st August (Malaysian Independence Day); Melbourne on the 6th September and Canberra on the 12th September

The Canberra Rally.

The Canberra Rally will be held outside the Malaysian High Commission at 3pm on the 12th September. The Rally has been specifically organized to coincide with the Malaysian Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Razak's visit

to Canberra. Depending on the response from Melbourne and Sydney, buses will be chartered to transport students to Canberra for the occasion. Prior to the Rally, on the 9th September at 8pm, there will be a public forum in the Hayden-Allen Tank of the ANU. The support given to the Rally will have some bearing on the future of many Malaysian students studying in this country.

SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST SURVEILLANCE AND INTIMIDATION OF MALAYSIAN STUDENTS. BE AT THE RALLY ON THE 12TH.

Timothy Ong.



Perhaps you know. Perhaps you believe you have the answer to Australia's problems. If so, we are interested in you. We give people like you the opportunity to take part in Australia's development. Energetic and competent graduates in the Australian Public Service are able to get close to projects in areas such as financial and economic management . . . defence force integration . . . the development and administration of social welfare programs and other topics affecting the community. As their experience and judgement widens, so do the demands made on them. Graduates' commencing salaries range from \$6,250 to \$7,423 per annum, depending on the level of degree held. For further information about graduate entry into the Service and life in Canberra, ct the Public Service inspector at T. & G. Building, Hobart Place, CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2601. Telephone 49 8866.

Applications should reach us not later than 20 September 1974.

AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC SERVICE

CALLTHE COPS:

On August 8th Deputy VC Dunbar and Chuckles (VC) put the University on red alert. All doors were barred, files were locked away, security men were everywhere and police were alerted from early morning.

Students met at 11.45am and by a very substantial majority voted (a) To protest at the Boards refusal to invite the student and non-professorial members of the 10/10 Committee to its discussions on the Report;

(b) to protest at the failure of the Faculties except Law to properly consider the 10/10 Report or the recommendations of the FECs on it; to protest at the failure of the Board (at the meeting then in progress) to properly consider the Report.

The Board showed its true hypocrisy in passing motions which could only be considered as rejection of the Report as a whole and rescision of the 'desirzble objectives' which they themselves had amended and passed more than four menths ago. They salved their consciences with pious statements of their belief in participation and with many 'invitations' to Deans and Heads of Departments to 'consider'. They reluctantly allowed Michael Dunn, as one of the Chairmen of the Committee to be present at their early discussions and then kicked him out before voting or considering motions.

Students further resolved by a large majority to occupy the Chancelry in protest.

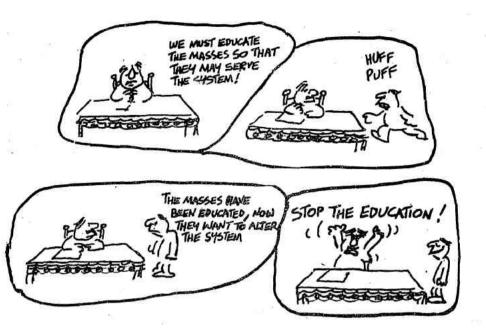
Seeing that further attempts to enter the Chancelry would result in injury and violence, students retired to the Student Administration building. After some confusion and discussion, a group of students left to return to the Chancelry. The Vice Chancellor graced them with his presence and with a commanding air of confidence; made insincere, crass and patronising answers to students' questions. He refused our request for a resumption of discussion and for protection for students in classes who voted for non-compulsory examinations.

This 'meeting' was interrupted by the news that the students had gained entry to the University switchboard and had control of it. This being the only feasible way whereby students might ensure a hearing, others then joined them. The switchboard was under student control from 2.45 until 3.45 pm. The Vice Chancellor rejected without consideration the request of the 60 students present for a meeting of students with the Standing Committee of the Board.

Instead he called the police. 27 people were arrested for 'Trespass on Commonwealth Property' (Penalty: \$250 and/or

The University has shown what it really thinks of participation. It rescinds the only gains students had made, it rejects the 10/10 Committee compromises, it calls police on campus for the first time.

On April 26 students on the one hand accepted the necessity of compromise and of working through current University



March 6: First Students' Association meeting supports greater student choice of 1. Means of assessment

- Means of assessment
 Combination of units
- 3. Material covered in courses

March 20: ANUSA Education policy debated at large meeting and adopted. It

Student choice of means of assessment within the limits of the objectives of the course.

- Greater student control of course content including student influence on staff appointments.
- 3. Fewer grades in courses
- Greater control of work loads.

April 18: Mass protest meeting on Education; formulates 4 demands:

- Choice of assessment
- Equal staff/student participation in course content
- End to overcrowding
- Womens Studies

April 18-19: All night occupation of Council chamber

April 19: Confrontation with ANU Council. Demands passed on to Board of the School of General Studies.

April 24: ANUSA meeting condemns omission of non-professorial staff from Board meeting; requests Board approval of 4 demands; proposes establishment of 10/10 Committee.

April 25-26: Occupation of Melville Hall in preparation for meeting of the Board April 26: 300 students face Board of the School. Demands accepted as 'desirable objectives'. 10/10 Committee set up.

May 6: ANUSA prepares detailed statement on implementation of demands.

May 7: 10/10 Committee has its first meeting. Two decisions are made: to call for submissions and the date of its next meeting.

May 11: ANUSA Statement largely rejected by staff members of 10/10 Committee.

May (onwards) Students begin taking action on the demands in their own units. Some success achieved.

June 4: Economics Faculty declares itself "not...to be bound necessarily by the resolutions of the BSGS..." Conservative reaction begins.

June 12: Disenchantment amongst students with 10/10 Committee grows. ANUSA passes motion that unless a substantial recommendation on equal student/staff participation in course content comes out of the next Committee meeting, the Association would not extend terms of student members beyond the end of that meeting.

June 18: 10/10 Committee meets. Compromise motion on staff/student representation adopted. Committee continues in existence.

June 20: Staff submissions to the Committee on the student demands made available. Described in leaflet as 'fearful reaction and shrewd paternalism'.

July 10: ANUSA accepts the Report as its 'Minimum demand' to the Board. July 11: Final 10/10 Committee meeting. Draft Report adopted.

July 24 - Aug 2: Faculties (with the exception of Law) begin to reject the Report of the 10/10 Committee as a whole, despite recommendations of staff/

student Faculty Education Committees.

July 25: Mass meeting in support of 10/10 Committee Report. Sit-in-in Chancelry. Vice-Chancellor asked to move motion at Board meeting to accept the Report and only allow Faculties to comment on details of implementation.

July 26: Board decides not to invite members of 10/10 Committee to discuss

the Report and not to consider the Report until August 8.

August 5: Debate on 10/10 Committee Report among students.

August 6: Officers of the ANUSA meet the staff to discuss objections to 10/10 Committee Report. Constructive alternatives requested from staff — none received.

August 8: Special Board meeting to discuss the Report. Mass meeting of students to hear the Board's decision. Meeting informed of the rejection of the Report and the rescision of the first desirable objective. Students march to Chancelry where they are forcibly prevented from entering the building. Students enter PABX room; police called onto campus; 27 students arrested. August 14: Students appear in court and are remanded to September 10.

Sept. 3: Mass meeting to discuss further action.

bodies and on the other hand won acceptance of their proposals as 'desirable objectives thus raising hopes for implementation. The students through the 10/10 Committee did achieve a compromise program for implementation which was accepted by most staff and students on that committee of the Board. Many important details of this compromise were accepted by other important staff-student bodies - the Faculty Education Committees, and by staff bodies like the Law Faculty. In addition students in a large number of units have achieved significant changes as a result of the campaign.

In sharp contrast to the compromises of the students have been the actions of some staff in their campaign against the proposals which included threats to students, the refusal of the Board to invite members of its own committee to be present at its discussion of their report, the refusal of many Faculties to consider the report or their FEC's, the locking of students out of the Chancelry and the arrest of 27 students on campus.

It is clear that the students cannot expect the invitation of the Board for Faculties to consider other ways of implementing the proposals to result in anything acceptable to students. The Faculties have already made their position clear, no alternatives have been offered, the decisions will be made by staff (not staff and students) and the Board has rescinded one of its desirable objectives. In this situation apart from some minor concessions we cannot expect the education proposals to be implemented without further pressure. Students must act in their own units to implement the proposals. The 10/10 Committee report still stands as our compromise proposal if the University chooses to seriously take it up. We must not, however, agree to further significant compromises or else our proposals will become a dead letter.

Although, much of the action must now be at a localized level, it still remains true that centralized action and a centralized movement is essential. Otherwise these students in the better departments will get somewhere and those in the intrasigent departments will get nowhere. We need a change in the overall structure and attitude of the University.

We must take centralized protest action until the University accepts the 10/10 Committee report or comes up with an alternative scheme to implement the proposals. It is not enough for them to ask for an alternative scheme — they must provide one!

Our aims must be to have the proposals implemented from the beginning of 1975 and to have compulsory exams, abolished immediately! Student boycott's of exams must be organized, firstly since the end of compulsory exams is a legitimate demand of students and secondly since this would be our most effective protest action.

